

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. - 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A barrier for loading docks, comprising:

a pair of spaced-apart vertical supports, each composed of a metal tube covered with polymeric sheathing, each vertical support having a lower end coupled to a ground surface and an upper end with an outermost lateral surface;

a horizontal crossbar composed of a metal tube covered with polymeric sheathing, the horizontal crossbar having two ends which extend beyond the outermost lateral surfaces of the vertical supports, each end of the horizontal crossbar being coupled to a respective one of the upper ends of the vertical metal tubes; and

wherein the horizontal crossbar includes two lower holes to receive the upper ends of the vertical supports, each upper end of each vertical support including a threaded fastener to receive a threaded member through each end of the horizontal crossbar, the threaded member projecting outwardly from the upper end of each vertical support beyond the lower holes in the horizontal crossbar to prevent lift-off.

7. (Previously Presented) The barrier of claim 6, further including an end cap to cover each end of the horizontal crossbar.